



Media Center

MESSENGER

Newsletter of the South Carolina Association of School Librarians

Volume XLII

April 2005

SCASL Presents SLIS With \$32,000!

A Note of Thanks to SCASL from SLIS Dr. Dan Barron, Director

At our Annual Conference in Florence, members of SCASL made history for the School of Library and Information Science when they gave SLIS the single largest contribution to a scholarship fund in the history of the school. Martha Taylor, SCASL President, presented Dan Barron, Director of SLIS, with a \$32,000 check. The money will complete the Margaret Ehrhardt Scholarship fund and fully fund the Mary Frances Griffin Scholarship. This means that SLIS can begin awarding both in the fall of 2005. The Margaret Ehrhardt Scholarship fund began with a contribution from SCASL and the Ehrhardt family several years ago, but it had not reached a level at which awards could be made.

This gift is significant in many ways beyond just considering the number of dollars. It is a celebration of two leaders of the profession whose important contributions to education will be remembered forever. Ms. Ehrhardt and Ms. Griffin, who were the School Library Media Consultants at the South Carolina Department of Education, were often referred to in a single breath. Now they will continue to be closely associated with the ongoing work of the profession that they cared for and worked in for so many years.



Ida Thompson, past president of SCASL; Dr. Dan Barron, Director of SLIS; Martha Taylor, current President of SCASL; Steve Reed, Treasurer of SCASL, proudly hold the check which will completely fund two scholarships at USC-SLIS.

The gift demonstrates the strong bond between the Association and the School. Partnerships such as this are fairly rare in higher education, especially between library schools and state professional associations. The collaboration that it suggests is an incredibly important relationship that will continue to help both entities to grow and to make a critical difference to student achievement in South Carolina.

(Continued on page 4.)



From the President

Martha Taylor,
martha_taylor@charter.net

Being a school library media specialist is a busy job – full of tasks and jobs and lists of more tasks and jobs to do tomorrow. The job never stops (and neither do we) but we make time to evaluate and assess. The same thing is true for SCASL – we are a large group with many committees, projects, programs, and initiatives. Are we working strategically in ways that support our mission? In reviewing the 2004-2005 year, I believe that we have accomplished some important things that demonstrate our organization’s commitment to our mission and purpose. Let’s look at a few . . .

Literacy and promoting the love of reading remain at the heart of our profession! With the addition of our new Picture Book category, all South Carolina students from kindergarten through senior high now have a program tailor-made for their interests and needs.

The SCASL annual conference continues to provide THE best professional development for school library media specialists. In 2005, national speakers Doug Johnson, David Loertscher, and Toni Buzzeo raised our awareness and knowledge of collaboration, advocacy, and accountability, all central to the viability and success of our programs.

AASL President Dawn Vaughn shared a national perspective of library media trends and issues with us at conference. SCASL continues to be active in AASL and Affiliate Assembly. Over 12 pages of your concerns and issues were sent from SCASL to the AASL board this winter. Our board is preparing to present Martha Alewine’s “Design by the Book” program for an AASL Commendation at ALA in Chicago in June.

The *AASL Leadership through Collaboration Institute* will be held June 16 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. The normal cost of the Institute is \$169.00, but SCASL is underwriting expenses to make it more affordable and accessible to our members at a cost of \$50.00. I hope you will take advantage of this workshop on topics central to our professional success.

SCASL has taken steps to encourage recruitment to our profession with the contribution of \$32,000 to the USC Educational Foundation to begin and fund the Mary Frances Griffin/SCASL scholarship and to complete funding of the Margaret Ehrhardt/SCASL scholarship that we began in 2000. The Griffin scholarship is designated to promote diversity. Both scholarships are for South Carolina students seeking a degree in school library media at the School of Library and Information Science.

The board is working to develop advocacy efforts for school library media programs across South Carolina, including effective and increased legislative advocacy. Look for announcements in the first *Messenger* next year to learn how you can play a role in this important initiative.

To all of you who are so dedicated to SCASL and our school library media programs, thank you for your commitment and work. Serving as the SCASL president has been a privilege and pleasure, and I will always treasure the experience. Let’s stay focused on our mission and keep up the good work!

MISSION STATEMENT

The South Carolina Association of School Librarians advocates professional excellence, facilitates collaboration, and develops leadership to ensure that school library media programs are integral to teaching and learning in every South Carolina school.

Keep in Touch

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*For your convenience you can now
view the Media Center Messenger
online at the SCASL Web site.*

SCASL listserv:

To subscribe:
Address: listserv@listserv.sc.edu
Subject: Leave blank
Message: Subscribe SCASL-LS
yourfirstname yourlastname

To send a message:

Address: SCASL-LS@listserv.sc.edu
Type: your subject
Type your message and send

The Media Center Messenger:

Send all suggestions, corrections, articles,
and ideas to jmoggles@direcway.com

Other important addresses:

SC Dept. of Education: www.state.sc.us/sde/

SCLA: www.scla.org

SC State Library: www.state.sc.us/scsl

ALA: www.ala.org

AASL: www.ala.org/aasl

Calendar

April 2005:
School Library Month

April 10-16, 2005
National Library Week

May 1, 2005:
Deadline for application Your First AASL

June 23-29, 2005:
ALA Annual Conference, Chicago IL

September 2005
Library card sign-up Month

October 16-22, 2005
Teen Read Week

October 6-9, 2005
AASL 12th National Conference
Pittsburgh, PA

March 1-3, 2006
SCASL Conference
Charleston, SC



*Keep up with current issues! Share ideas, ask
questions, read information on latest legisla-
tion. Join listserv now! The information bulle-
tin board for library media specialists!*

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To keep your membership current, remember
your 2005-2006 dues are payable now. The
fiscal year ends June 30, 2005.

(Continued from page 1.)

The gift is one of love and caring for the next generation of professionals that it will help to educate. It has been suggested that the maturity of an individual or a group is the extent to which they care about those who are to follow them. This gift will continue for as long as the School exists and will provide assistance and encouragement for those who will be the profession's leaders of tomorrow.

The gift is recognition of SCASL's and SLIS's commitment to diversity. The Mary Frances Griffin Scholarship will be awarded to a minority person who wants to become a school library media specialist. Addressing diversity issues is critical to continuing the positive efforts we have undertaken to assure that all of the members of our society will have a voice in guiding the profession and speaking for the unique communities that they represent.

While the gift comes from the collective members of the Association, it also comes from each individual whose membership dues contributed to the single check. This distinction is important because it shows the strength and power that we have as individuals when we work collectively. Very few of us have the financial capacity to make such a contribution, but together we can, and together we can do many more things for the children and schools of South Carolina.

SLIS is proud to have been a part of the lives of so many of the individuals who make up the Association and proud to see their many accomplishments. We especially are proud to see them presenting at the conference on topics that are at the leading edge of the profession, the numbers of graduates who have taken a leadership role in the Association, and those who are active members of other state and national associations. You make the profession in South Carolina look good and you make SLIS look good!

Thank you, SCASL! Thank you for collectively and individually trusting us with your money. I assure you that we will use it for the greater good of our professional community. And, remember, we are always here if and when you ever need us!

Dr. Dan Barron, Director

Margaret Ehrhardt Student Service Award



Congratulations to Ariel Frazier, this year's winner of the Margaret Ehrhardt Student Scholarship. Ariel is a senior at St. John's High School in Charleston School District 9. She plans to use the \$1000 award this fall when she plans to attend Francis Marion University. Her library media specialist, Minerva King, speaks highly of Ariel, saying she is, "quiet and reserved while at the same time working in a steady, conscientious manner and volunteering for added tasks after completing her assigned duties." Library media specialists—be sure to watch next fall's *Media Center Messenger* for the opportunity to nominate one of your students next year!

SCASL Funds Two Scholarships

Steve Reed, Treasurer SCASL, screed3103@yahoo.com

The Executive Board of the SCASL at their January meeting voted unanimously to fully fund The Margaret W. Ehrhardt Scholarship at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina. At the same time, the Board voted unanimously to start and fully fund the Mary Frances Griffin Scholarship. The Mary Frances Griffin Scholarship will be designated as a diversity scholarship to help minorities enter the school library media profession.

For those of us who have been in education in South Carolina since the early 1970's, we will remember both Margaret Ehrhardt and Mary Frances Griffin as being the two ladies who led school libraries through desegregation and into transition to school library media centers. While I worked as a Federal Programs Coordinator, I often saw them at meetings discussing how to spend Title II monies on school library programs. It seemed as if the two were inseparable. When you thought about school libraries and the State Department of Education, you thought about Margaret Ehrhardt and Mary Frances Griffin. It just seems like the right thing to do to fully fund both of these scholarships at this time.

Margaret Ehrhardt served in various capacities at McKissick Library at USC; the Richland County Public Library; the Orangeburg County Free Library; Orangeburg District 5; and Orangeburg High School as librarian prior to becoming library media consultant for the South Carolina Department of Education in 1965. For many years she actively supported SCHSLMA. In recognition of her many contributions, SCHSLMA established the Margaret Ehrhardt Student Service Award in her honor. The scholarship is still given to a high school student who has supported his/her school library media program through volunteer service.

Mary Frances Griffin is a graduate of Benedict College (1947) and did graduate work at Indiana University. She began as a classroom teacher and later became a school librarian. She joined Margaret Ehrhardt at the State Department as library media consultant in 1966.

These two professionals served the library media specialists of the State of South Carolina until their retirement in 1987. In recognition of their service, Ann White, representing SCASL, presented them with the President's Award at the annual conference in Greenville in April of 1987.

Mrs. Ehrhardt attended the SCASL conference in 2000 when the scholarship fund in her name was initiated. She died in August of 2003. Ms. Griffin resides in Columbia. She was thrilled with the establishment of a full scholarship in her name, but was, unfortunately, unable to attend the 2005 conference due to ill health.



This photo of Mary Frances Griffin is from the 1959 yearbook of Bryson High School in Fountain Inn. It was donated by Lina Malinda H. Pearson, Retired Library Media Specialist, Darlington.



A photo showing Ann White, President of SCASL, presenting the President's Award to Mary Frances Griffin and Margaret W. Ehrhardt at the SCASL 1987 Conference.



Margaret Ehrhardt pictured at the 2000 Conference.



From the State Department of Education
School Library Media Services

Martha Alewine, Consultant, School Library Media Services
E-mail: malewine@sde.state.sc.us Mobile: 803-331-0483

Please allow me a point of personal privilege in this *Messenger*. I would once again like to say thank you to those who nominated me and to the South Carolina Association of School Librarians for giving me the Distinguished Service Award for 2004-05. I am truly humbled by this honor and very appreciative. The support from you, the library information professionals across South Carolina, really made this honor possible. I look forward to continuing as your advocate at the state level.

We have made great strides in raising the awareness about school libraries in South Carolina. The guest speakers at conference this year, David Loertscher, Doug Johnson, and Tony Buzzeo, all spoke to the themes that we have been emphasizing in South Carolina over the last several years. These national "experts" validated our work when they spoke about collaboration with teachers, integration of information literacy and technology skills, and the impact on student learning. Much of what you heard at conference can be found in *I.M.P.A.C.T.: Teaching and Learning for the 21st Century*. Check out the PowerPoint presentation: *Building Better Research* is based on Loertscher's work, "Ban the Bird Unit." Congratulations to Lawren Hammond and her committee members for a great conference and a timely program agenda.

Conference is past and now our work begins...putting into practice what we learned in those many sessions we attended at conference. Our goal as educators is to help our students learn how to learn. Use the remaining months of this school year to reflect on your library media program, your working relationship with your principal and your teachers, and then develop some strategies for redefining your role as library media specialist in your school and your district.

Attend 2005 AASL in Pittsburgh!

Have you ever attended an American Association of School Librarians conference? If not and if you meet the criteria listed below, you may qualify for a newly announced grant to help you attend the meeting October 6th through 8th, 2005

"My First AASL" Grant application forms are available now. To qualify for one of the \$500 awards, all you must do is (1) be a member of AASL by October 1, 2005, (2) be currently working in an elementary or middle school library (public or private), (3) be attending your first AASL National Conference, and (4) have little or no travel funds available from your district.

Bound To Stay Bound Books, Inc., a leading supplier of children's and young adult books, will award a grant to two current members of SCASL, in an attempt to encourage professional growth and interaction. Winners will be chosen at random from those who apply.

Applications may be obtained from Lawren Hammond, North Augusta High School, 2000 Knobcone Ave., North Augusta, SC 29841, lhammond@aiken.k12.sc.us. Applications should be postmarked by May 1, 2005. Winners will be selected at the SCASL Executive Board meeting on May 20, 2005 and will be notified by mail.

The Coolest Conference Ever!

Teaching, Learning, Connecting for Success – that’s what we did in Florence the first week in March. Our presenters taught us so much! We learned so much from our vendors and our peers in sharing sessions. We made many connections that will help us serve our students better in the future. That’s what every conference should be about, learning and sharing and becoming more competent professionals for the benefit of our patrons.

There were approximately 750 registered conference attendees and well over 100 vendors and guests, according to SCASL Executive Secretary, Kathy Sutusky. We had 69 different companies represented, including several new ones thanks to Harriet Kicker, Vendor Chair, and they filled all 85 booths in the Exhibit Hall.

Our guest speakers shared their expertise most graciously – David Loertscher from San Diego on our impact on student achievement and new research techniques; Doug Johnson from Minnesota on best practices and budgeting; Toni Buzzeo from Maine on collaboration and writing; our own Frank Baker on media literacy; and Nancy Polette from Missouri on new ways to use literature to stimulate reading. Adding to this lineup were many South Carolina media specialists who shared their successes and ideas with us all.

We thoroughly enjoyed meeting new author Danny Schnitzlein and hearing his story about Coconut Island (and not just because he included librarians as characters). Betsy Byars and her daughters Laurie Myers and Betsy Duffey, also successful authors in their own rights, were delightful in their round robin acceptance speech at the Book Award Luncheon. Mary E. Pearson touched our hearts as she spoke about how *Scribbler of Dreams* came to be.

Even though the weather and the facility were unusually chilly, the feeling of camaraderie and the excitement of learning kept us warm inside, and members will long remember the coolest conference we’ve ever had.

*Lawren Hammond, Vice-President/President-Elect
lmhammond3@comcast.net*



To celebrate SCASL's thirtieth birthday, members shared a special birthday cake!



Vendors were kept busy throughout the conference.

SCASL AWARDS ~ 2005

Elizabeth “Lizzie” Padget, Forest Lake Elementary, Columbia Media Specialist of the Year



Elizabeth, Lizzie to those who know her, has always kept her goals first and foremost in her planning to ensure the best possible programming in her media center. Because she wants students and community members to feel welcome when they enter the door, she and her assistant provide open access and work hard to develop a warm, inviting atmosphere. Collaboration is key to her program and she works with the Instructional Technology Specialist and each grade level team on a regular basis to create long-range plans for standards-based instruction to include technology, information literacy and literature. She has built strong community support and has truly made a difference in the lives of thousands of children and countless educators. She expects excellence and sets the standard through her personal efforts.

Anne Carver, Beaufort County Schools Administrator of the Year



Anne began as reading teacher at Robert Smalls Middle School in 1971, moved to Beaufort Jr. High as librarian in 1974 and, in 1987, became the Beaufort County District Media Supervisor. Her responsibilities were so extensive that her title was changed to Executive Director of Technology.

In her position at district level, Anne has proven herself a wizard at securing and maintaining funding for media centers. A strong advocate for technology, Anne has, nevertheless, never forgotten that media centers need good books and an excellent print collection. She has provided sources of guidance in aligning collections with the curriculum with the result that media specialists were able to create 3 to 5 year development plans to present to administrators to justify full funding of their programs. With all this, the best interests of the students was always uppermost in her mind. She inspires everyone to do the best they can because she does.



A conference without Chris Christy would be like a day without sunshine. He greets everyone by name with a friendly smile. Chris represents Hart, Inc. sponsors of the Media Specialist of the Year Award for many years.

SCASL AWARDS COMMITTEE:

Sandra McLendon, Chair
Melissa Adair
Robert Bartless
Mica Brakefield
Jenny McCulloch

**Martha Alewine, Library Media Consultant, SDE
Distinguished Service Award**



Martha's resume is filled with so many details of initiatives and accomplishments that it is difficult to summarize. She began as a classroom teacher followed by ten years of serving as a school library media specialist at all levels, elementary, middle and high schools. She oversaw both renovation and construction of media centers. As a member of SCASL she served on several committees and, in 1994, was a finalist for Media Specialist.

Since 1998, when Martha became Library Media Consultant at the SDE, she has been a teacher, an advocate of the profession, an initiator of programs and ideas, and leader of all the media specialists throughout South Carolina as well as other states. Martha maintains constant communication, both personally and electronically, with all members of the profession. Her tireless efforts have benefitted all.

**Terry Landreth, Greenville County Media Services Secretary
Media Paraprofessional of the Year**



Prior to her current position, Terry served as library clerk at Brushy Creek Elementary for 8 years. Because of her experience at both local and district levels, Terry has excellent insight into the needs of the district media specialists and supports each of them in every possible way. Her responsibilities are many and she is efficient at each of them. She dreamed early on of becoming a media specialist herself, but family responsibilities did not permit it. Because of this dream, she brings a true dedication to her work. Perhaps her most important virtue is how she nurtures and supports new media specialists and cheerfully answers the questions of the seasoned veterans while maintaining a pleasant attitude despite the dozens of phone calls and emails that daily interrupt her other duties. She is truly a dedicated professional.

Throughout the year many SCASL members give their time to the various tasks that are required to maintain the services of our organization by chairing or serving on committees. They spend many valuable hours keeping you informed on technology news, issues of intellectual freedom, the latest in professional research, and current legislative trends. And, of course, the work of conference planning people is ongoing and seemingly endless. It is time to thank those many individuals and so, throughout this issue you will see the names of many committees with a list of their members. We publicly thank them. If you know any of the members, take time to thank them personally for their efforts. They will appreciate it.



Book Award News



Joyce Moore, Book Awards Chair, jmoorescba@yahoo.com

What a busy and exciting year this has been for the Book Award Programs!

We were honored to have Betsy Byars, Laurie Myers and Betsy Duffey, 2004 Children's Book Award winning authors, and Mary Pearson, 2004 Young Adult Book Award winner, as guest speakers at the Book Award Luncheon.

Three hundred and thirty-six schools participated in the voting this year and the 2005 Book Award winners selected by the students of South Carolina are:

Children's Book Award	<i>Mr. Lincoln's Way</i>	by Patricia Polacco
Junior Book Award	<i>Stormbreaker</i>	by Anthony Horowitz
Young Adult Book Award	<i>The Lovely Bones</i>	by Alice Sebold

Book Award Banners

There were 70 outstanding entries in the banner program this year. A special thanks is due the participating schools. Listed below are the three winners in each category.

Children's Books

1st Place	Manning Elementary	<i>A Boy at War</i>
2nd Place	J. K. Gordon Elementary	<i>Mr. Lincoln's Way</i>
3rd Place	Beaufort Academy	<i>Gold Threaded Dress</i>

Junior Books

1st Place	League Academy	<i>Goddess of Yesterday</i>
2nd Place	Sullivan Middle School	<i>Things Not Seen</i>
3rd Place (Tie)	LBC Middle Lexington Middle	<i>Surviving the Applewhites</i> <i>Red Midnight</i>

Young Adult Books

1st Place	Timberland High	<i>Son of the Mob</i>
2nd Place	Boiling Springs High	<i>Ashes of Roses</i>
3rd Place	Fort Dorchester High	<i>The Lovely Bones</i>



Some of the 70 banners submitted this year.



Book Award News



Many volunteer hours are spent each year by members of the SCASL committees. I would like to personally thank the four chairmen of the 2004-2005 Book Award Committees: Jana Wood, Picture Books; Susannah Hogan, Children's; Samantha McManus, Junior; and Sue Anne Beym Spears, Young Adult. Each committee has approximately twenty members and these chairs did an excellent job of organizing meetings, directing the selection of the nominee books, organizing book talks for conference and many other tasks. After years of reading so many consideration books, they will hopefully have time now to catch up on some personal reading choices.

Special thanks to Debra Heimbrook for accepting the banners for conference, to the committee members who hung the banners, and to the judges who volunteered time to select the winners.

There are some unsung heroes who volunteer time that I would like to recognize. Priscilla Bundrick, Commercial Design Teacher at Lexington Technology Center, has provided high definition images for each of our book award logos. Her student, Ben Gunter, designed the new Picture Book Logo and Josh Adams designed the generic logo shown at the top of this page, which we also use as Book Award letterhead.

Thanks to Laura Jackson for countless hours spent publishing the *Media Center Messenger* and Donna Teuber for maintaining the SCASL website. To both of them, many thanks for your unlimited and very much appreciated patience.

Finally, I want to recognize an outstanding program for promotion of the SC Book Awards. Media Specialist Nancy Nelson and thirteen of her students at Carolina Forrest HS in Myrtle Beach have read all twenty nominee books this year. Three of her students have read all twenty titles for each of the four years that they were in high school. These students are Rachel Brown, Jennifer Campbell and Satrena Cusack. What an outstanding accomplishment! Congratulations to each of these students.

BOOK AWARDS COMMITTEES

Joyce B. Moore, Chair

Joyce Moore coordinates the four specialized committees: Picture Book, Children's, Junior, and Young Adult. Members of these committees spend endless hours reading and reviewing hundreds of books in order to make the best selections for our the benefit of library media specialists throughout the state.

Picture Book

Jana Wood, Chair
D'Etta Broam
Sheri Carpenter
Susan Cassels
Lisa Conrath
Megan Cothran
Gwendolyn Davis
Jenny Dilworth
Lynne Holcombe
Alleene Holland
Janet Kittrell
Laura Linder
Dr. Michelle Martin
Donna Myles
Teri Puryear
Suzanne Rhoten
Lois Stroud
Betty Teague
Lisa Ulmer
Carla Laney
Taylor Moore

Children's

Susannah Hogan,
Chair
Becky Bridges
Leigh Ann Bryant
Susannah Bryant
Valerie Byrd
Jane Chinault
Rose Davis
Jan Faile
Theresa Harmon
Eleanor Haton
Julia Hogan
Jennifer Jones
Mary Anne Kohl
Kitt Lisenby
Hannah Quackenbush
Marcia Russo
Celeste Stone
Deborah Wolfe

Junior

Samantha McManus, Chair
Sandy Bailey
Elizabeth Blankenship
Teresa Blankenship
Kathy Butler
Brandy Caroway
Lisa Foster
Henry Hall
Tricia Hartley
Susan Henley
Tami Huggins
Debbie Jarrett
Hannah Jarrett
Leigh Jordan
Beth Lee
Ann Lewis
Heidi Lewis
Betty Neal
Barbara Satkowski
Patty Tucker

Young Adult

Sue Anne Spears, Chair
Linda Bryant
Kim Calhoun
Mollie Carter
April Crumpton
Joy Danigel
Brian Glassman
Rose Grayson
Tookie Harrop
Kay Horton
Maggie Horton
Sally Hursey
Janet Kenney
Evelyn Newman
Stephanie Nichols
Haley Rogers
Charlene Zehner

You and Your Counterpart at the Public Library: Cooperation and Sharing

Cathleen Moore, Myrtle Beach Intermediate, cmoore@mbi.hcs.k12.sc.us

One of the first things I did when I moved to my new town and school library was to visit the public library and introduce myself to the children's and young adult librarian. We discussed how we could work together and bring more students into reading programs both at the public library and at school. We realized that she needed to be seen as a resource for our students at the school library throughout the year.

Together we book talk the SCCBA nominees in the early fall. Our four or five 20-minute sessions are full with five classes attending each session. We don't go in with an agenda of who will booktalk which book, but instead play off each other and the audience. The children and teachers enjoy the spontaneity and the fun we have together.

During the school year we stay in touch via email or personal visits, updating the projects that students are working on and determining if there are problems that need to be solved. This year, our C/YA librarian came and talked to our fourth graders about doing research in the reference room of the public library. She covered what behavior is expected of a researcher, what materials and supplies are necessary for a researcher, and how to ask for help from the reference librarians. She reassured the children that they were indeed welcome in the reference room just like adults who were doing research.

Our C/YA librarian has been a big supporter of special programming we have done in the school library. She has been a reader on "Read Across America" day, been hostess for SCCBA voting parties, and together we have set up and run a career day booth at our school career day festival.

Just before school ends we plan the annual summer reading book talks. She comes with books for her display and all the wonderful programming she has planned for the children. And, again, our time slots fill up very fast and are crammed with students,

teachers, and even a parent or two!

Our public C/YA librarian also is an ex officio member of my library advisory team. If I am having trouble making a decision about the age appropriateness of a book that I want to order, I often ask her for an opinion.

One great idea I heard at the SCASL conference in Florence was to ask your public library to set up a table during the first open house of the school year to register students and families for library cards. We are going to do that in August and hopefully reach out to our growing community of immigrants.

Perhaps you have some great ideas about working with your local C/YA librarian. Pass them on through the listserv and share your stories of cooperation, sharing, and fun!

An Example of Collaboration with Your Public Library!

Fairfield County media specialists have joined with the Fairfield County Library staff and Friends of the Library to plan the Fairfield County annual Read In. Over 350 students from grades K-8 will spend April 15th at the Old Armory enjoying reading, a parade of readers, entertainment and lunch. The community and the District personnel will greet the readers and fun will be had by all with lots of reading taking place.



Dr. Dan shares a serious moment.

And the Winner is...

Greta Flinn, SCASL Advocacy Committee

Congratulations to all who entered the Advocacy Contest. It is obvious that all of you work hard to advocate your library media centers and your library media programs. Selecting three winners was not an easy task!

**Grand Prize Winner (\$50 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble):
Carole McGrath**

Runner Up (\$25 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble): Jessica Felker

Runner Up (\$25 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble): Linda Hall

Advocacy practices gleaned from contest entries

- Create a Technology “How To” Manual
- Send professional periodical articles/summaries to faculty
- Help with schoolwide presentations
- Highlight new purchases
- Find ways to make your school and administration “look good”
- Provide request forms for books/services
- Sponsor student news crew
- Assist faculty with technology
- Sponsor library café
- Decorate the LMC
- Stand in hallway during class changes
- Stay abreast of school assignments
- Offer quick help information (citation “cheat sheets”)
- Have giveaways for students at book fairs
- Send items in to the newspaper
- Greet the students
- Create recreational reading areas
- Have a weekly book feature
- Begin a book club
- Pass on information from listserv
- Write grants and assist others in grant endeavors
- Host a student work presentation “party”
- Advocate your school and administration
- Maintain book displays
- Celebrate literacy (Teen Read Week, Dr. Seuss’s birthday, National Library Week, etc.)
- Host technology workshops with door prizes
- Provide giveaways for teachers at book fairs
- Pass on legislation alerts to faculty
- Send articles on importance of LMC’s to district administration

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Greta Flinn, Chair, Valerie Byrd, Andi Fansher, Peggy Harrison

Reading Groups Using NASCAR Racing as a Reading Focus

Lynda Lee, ilee@clarendon2.k12.sc.us

There is a confession that must be made. I believe that some students can interpret the content of what they read and discuss it more openly when they perceive it purely as reading just for fun! Not everyone can throw a pass to make a touchdown, make a three point shot to win a basketball game, or hit a 90 mph serve in tennis; but nearly everyone, including teenagers, can or will drive a car. This helps to make the emergent sport of NASCAR interesting to a diverse number of students.

A few years ago, I decided to take this thirty-year passion of mine for a test drive with a few groups of students. Not wanting the students to be intimidated by the opinions of others, I kept each group no larger than eight at a time. This kept the lines of communication moving freely. The rules were few. The die-hard fans were reminded not to get on a soapbox about “their” driver (I was also subject to this rule), nor were they to color their opinions on whatever ethical question was being discussed with perceptions about “their” driver. And, last of all, of course, no questions would be criticized. It was important for the participants who knew nothing about the sport to feel as comfortable as those that were already big fans.

Ethical questions relating NASCAR to daily life, am I kidding you? NO! Even with its growing pains, it is a family sport. It is a family sport that includes the intrigue of legions of team employees who are paid to find the grey areas in the NASCAR Rule Book. Those outside the sport call it cheating; but many of those inside the sport see it as doing their job. Doesn’t that leave plenty of room for discussion? NASCAR began as a “good old boy” sport that truly has its roots in rum runners. Is there room for discussion there? You bet! Have the rules of driver and team behavior changed over the years? Absolutely! Is there room for interpretive discussions about past and current ethical behavior? Of course!

When beginning a new group, the students read and discuss, *NASCAR’s Most Wanted: the Top 10 Book of Outrageous Drivers, Wild Wrecks, and Other*

Oddities by Jim McLaurin, a former sports writer for The State newspaper. It is a humorous account of the history of the sport broken down into short, easy to digest and discuss chapters. Sharing an appropriate article in a newspaper or from a reputable website helps the discussions connect the past with the present. I keep a good stock of biographies and autobiographies of different drivers available, but try to focus on books that cover the sport overall such as *Postcards from Pit Road* by Monte Dutton, and *American Speed From Dirt Tracks to Indy to NASCAR* by LIFE Books. But, so far, the overall favorite has been the book *Cheating: An Inside Look At The Bad Things Good NASCAR Winston Cup Racers Do in Pursuit of Speed* by Tom Jensen. This year a student, who actually races on dirt, said that she got ideas from that book on how to gain an advantage. She certainly showed me that she was paying attention to what she read!

In the past, I have focused on freshmen for my groups because their English teachers were so cooperative about giving a few minutes of time on a regular basis for us to meet. It has worked well and each group has been different. Currently there is a reading crew made up entirely of freshmen girls. They keep me on my toes and their fresh perspective of the material is sharp.

This year I tried something more challenging. I asked students to volunteer to meet on a regular basis during part of their lunch period. We have to meet at my checkout desk because I am still responsible for the students who use the library during lunch. Having started off with six students in September, now only three regularly attend, but what they lack in numbers they make up for in the quality of their thought processes. They are all seniors, and are considering jobs within the sport.

South Carolina has rich NASCAR connections. One of our faculty members actually grew up as a childhood friend of Cale Yarborough’s children, and the teacher graciously spoke to the group one day about his personal experiences connected with racing. Cale is just one of the racers who proudly call South Carolina home. Our school has one graduate who crews on an actual race team. He came by in November and talked with the lunch group, giving them his take on some of their favorite

drivers. My son-in-law is a lighting engineer who did some work on the Darlington track. He managed to get me into the garage at Darlington during race weekend last November. It was a once in a lifetime experience, and I made sure that I snapped photos of my reading crew's favorite drivers to give to them after the weekend.

Unlike the early days of the sport, NASCAR is now very technology driven. The NASCAR movie produced by IMAX and now available on DVD gives several vivid examples. Some drivers and many crew chiefs now have engineering degrees. Yes, there is plenty of exhilaration at a race track, and this is now a sport of intense, intelligent men and women.

We have at least two former students in a racing technical school now, and more seem to be headed that way. Choosing a career direction is difficult, and not everyone can be a star athlete, but some recreational reading may just lead someone to a new career in engineering, public relations, sports journalism, or other new career in racing that didn't even exist in the sport a year ago.

I am hoping that the senior students who have persevered all year will have the chance to see some real racing action before the end of the year. Darlington is just up the road from us. Who knows?

With the continued support of my administrators, who both support racing on the local level, I hope to continue to entice some possibly reluctant readers to read a book or two about racing. After all, it's just for fun, right?



Public Awareness

As chair, Suzanne Washick spent the year compiling the Honor Roll lists, revising the various Public Awareness programs for implementation next year and taking photos and maintaining records of this year's conference.

From the Legislative Committee

Pam Huntley, Chair, Legislative Chair,
phuntley@greenville.k12.sc.us

Media specialists were encouraged to promote their libraries through public venue such as newspapers and TV media, to keep legislators informed of their library program through letters or email and to invite special visitors to their media centers.

Betsy Long, media specialist at Doby's Mill Elementary School in Lugoff, sent pictures and articles to the Camden Chronicle and Elgin Town News telling them about their International Literacy Day Celebration which was held on September 8, 2004. She also has a monthly Family Reading Night Event. Todd Wood, who ran for House District 79, attended all the Reading Night Events. As a special treat, he read the book *Skippy John Jones* over the closed circuit TV system on International Literacy Day.



Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott reads and discusses books with fifth graders in the media center of Keels Elementary School during National Young Readers Day.

Barbara Powell, library media specialist at Joseph Keels Elementary School in Columbia, had Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott read to their fifth graders for National Young Readers Day.

Who better to promote library programs than the media specialists themselves? Keeping up with current issues, contacting their legislative representatives, and inviting guests as often as possible is a great start.

Do You Love Poetry?

Janet Boltjes, Gilbert High, Lexington, jboltjes@lexington1.net

I hate to admit to my librarian friends that I wasn't that wild about poetry. I read and memorized poems assigned by teachers as they dutifully taught sonnets and iambic pentameter, then I forgot them as quickly as the test was over. The only time I read poetry was in a mushy greeting card. However, that changed when Brod Bagert came to SCASL. I sat with him when he was keynote speaker at a SCASL banquet, rediscovered poetry, and began a friendship. Over the years our paths crossed several times. During a shared ride back to Lexington from an Authors on the Beach conference, I learned more about poetry than I had learned in all my years of formal education. We talked about poetry, he performed his favorite poems and wrote a new poem, and I discovered I liked poetry after all!

Several months later I contacted Brod with a wild idea. I asked him to help me create an enjoyable poetry learning experience for my high school students. I didn't feel comfortable doing a poetry slam, and I didn't want to teach formal lessons; I just wanted students to have fun with poetry. We bounced some ideas around, and finally came up with the idea of doing a series of seminars followed by an author visit to our school. Brod spent part of his Christmas vacation recording some of his favorite poems and a series of essays about poetry. I'll have to admit that I was clueless about some of the topics, but I pestered him until I understood the concepts.

I advertised our poetry seminars and scheduled our first meeting. Any student with parental permission and teacher recommendation was eligible to join, but I had no idea what to expect. I thought I might get two students, hoped for five, and optimistically made handouts for ten. The end-of-day bell rang, and students started arriving, and kept coming! For our first meeting, we had twelve students! I was thrilled, but totally shocked. The students who came were a marvelous mixture of ages, abilities and opinions! The only "rules" we established were "Be courteous

when others are talking," and "What is said in poetry club stays in poetry club." We discussed the fact that poems were often written about sensitive issues, and we agreed to share poems and ideas without worrying about gossip.



The syllabus Brod and I developed for the seminars was totally revised after the first session. The students enjoyed listening to Brod perform poetry and explain the craft of poetry, but they were anxious to share their own work. As they read their poems, I was absolutely blown away by the quality and variety of their poetry.

As the sessions progressed, so did the poets! With Brod's guidance we began to think like



poets. We saw metaphor everywhere, and poetry seemed to flow out of us. I didn't follow the "lesson plan" when I sensed the students needed a different path. Unlike a formal "library lesson," there were no goals, objectives, or strategies to follow. The students quickly became the experts, and I was merely the tour guide. (Of course, I needed to consult Brod after each session to help me plan the next step.)

We continued to learn more about the craft of poetry with Brod's help. Brod read some of the students' poems and sent comments back to the students. He did not "critique" the poems; he made suggestions to help them follow their natural inclinations and talents. His only stipulation was that all comments be shared with everyone in the group.

Our poetry students received special permission to miss some of their regular classes to serve as hosts and hostesses for Brod's formal presentations which consisted of Brod writing original Brod Bagert poems before a live audience. (It's amazing, but he actually does this, and the students pay attention and enjoy it.) Between classes they shared their ideas and comments about the poems Brod had written, and Brod further explained how he had crafted the poems. At the end of the day, we all gathered in the library. We had pizza delivered to the school and shared poetry for hours. The students didn't want to leave. Brod encouraged the students to be the "King Kong" of their own poetry likes and dislikes, and they took him to heart! Although they listened thoughtfully to his comments, they were not willing to make changes just because he suggested it. Observing the interaction between Brod and the students was amazing. The students, who knew and understood each other's work, often took an advocate's role on behalf of one another and would defend and explain their peer's thoughts to Brod. At other times the students understood Brod's suggestions and elaborated on his comments. Shy students were able to articulate their thoughts and the "talkers" listened. I think the last student left around 7:30 that evening, but it was one of the most enjoyable days in my professional career.

Since Brod's visit, the poetry club continues to grow. We now have close to 20 members in the

club and still meet on a weekly basis. Although I suggested that we meet every other week, the students insisted we maintain our pace. In fact, many of them wanted to meet more than once a week, but I politely declined that request! I have learned so much about poetry, my students, and myself since we began this effort.

One student summed up the essence of this endeavor when she wrote, "I think the idea of having a poetry club at school is great because I didn't know if anyone else at school even wrote poetry. Now I have a dozen or so new friends that I can go to for help or inspiration. And what's so great about our club is that it is made up of very different types of people from different 'cliques' or groups that wear different clothes and listen to different music and we all come together as one group and we almost understand each other and respect each other; we are kinda like a family!" There is no way I could stop with this group after hearing that comment!



Brod and I now have a wealth of information, and our goal is to work with other media specialists to replicate and improve the experience.

If you have any questions or suggestions for our project, please email me.

jboltjes@lexington1.net

or phone me at school: 803.892.1116



DISCUS Adds Business, Health and Newspaper Content

DISCUS - South Carolina's Virtual Library - has expanded its coverage of business and health and added the Greenville News archive to its holdings.

The addition of **Business & Company Resource Center** to DISCUS provides access to a comprehensive periodical and reference source covering business, industry, management and investments. This new database provides organized access to articles from general, professional and trade periodicals; newspaper and newswire articles; and reference sources on company histories, brands and market share. It also includes hundreds of investment reports from such firms as A. G. Edwards, Morgan Stanley and Smith Barney Citigroup.

DISCUS has also added the archive to articles from **The Greenville News** from 1999 forward. This newspaper archive joins **The State** (Columbia newspaper, 1987+) archive which has been available through DISCUS for over a year. The newspapers may be searched in a combined database, **SC Newspapers: Columbia & Greenville**, or as separate titles. They may also be browsed by date and section.

The **Health & Wellness Resource Center** database available through DISCUS has been expanded with additional coverage on alternative health topics. This comprehensive health resource now provides users with even more articles from general interest and medical periodicals, medical reference books, news sources and links to Web sites for credible medical and health information.

Seuss Day at James Island Elementary



Beth Hale of "101 Ways to Celebrate Read Across America Day" (See the Messenger February 2005.)

With the help of Beth Hale, MS, the James Island Library Media Center turned into Seussville on March 2, 2005! We counted down the week before with daily Seuss trivia and the big day started with SEUSS NEWS - a live broadcast of rhyme reporting complete with our principal giving the Reader's Oath! All classes in grades K-3 were invited to participate in Seussville activities! Brightly colored balloons and table covers helped mark the festive occasion. The computers were even Seussed out - with special Dr. Seuss wallpa-

per and screen savers from web shots. Students enjoyed "Seuss Soup" - a word building game using the letters from 4 of Dr. Seuss' most famous titles. Students were given brightly colored letters and asked to build as many words as they could in 5 minutes. Two students built 37 words! Students also engaged in a creative arts activity based on the book *The Shape of Me and Other Stuff!* Students were given a pile of geometric shaped paper and a Self Portrait canvas (card stock). They were invited to create the shape of themselves however they imagined it! Finally, the halls were prowled by Cats in Hats! Parent volunteers read to every class throughout the day. Kindergarten classes were especially lucky and were visited by local weekend sports anchor for Channel 4, Ben Baker. The day was incredible and the children were filled with excitement!

ARCHIVES & HISTORY COMMITTEE

Mitzi Burden, Chair
Alleene Holland
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CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Carolyn Jenkins, Chair
Vicki Moody
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ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

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AND

SCASL WEBSITE
Donna Teuber

Remember!!!

If you have any information or material that should be included in the SCASL Archives, don't hesitate. Contact Mitzi Burden NOW! Help preserve SCASL's history.

Mitzi Burden, Archives & History Chair.
burdenm@charter.net

Read-In's In Richland Two

Barbara Montgomery, Pontiac Elementary, Richland District 2, *bmontgom@pe.richland2.org*

Guess what we did for Children's Book Week this year? You give up? Well, on November 16, 2004, we held not just one, but eight Read-Ins. The high schools and middle schools in our district graciously hosted the thirteen elementary schools for a day of fun and reading.

Some of the Read-Ins were centered on themes such as: "Call to Courage," "Reading With Friends," and "A Celebration of Reading." Every Read-In involved silent reading and read-alouds, prizes, crafts, cake walks, and musical chairs. For many of us elementary media specialists it was a pleasure to see our former students read to our current students. And the hugs were great, too! The highlight for many of the younger students was being able to have lunch at a high school or middle school and interact with the older boys and girls.

Each host school entertained us in its own way. At one school the drama department performed an original play based on a book about courage. Other schools invited their music students to perform. There were storytellers and a teacher who did a presentation on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Most groups consisted of less than sixty children. Selection to participate was left up to the individual school. All groups ate lunch and spent the day at their host school. There were super heroes (Superman), the Cat in the Hat, and special guests (Joe Pinner). We can truly say a good time was had by all and this activity is on our agenda for next year.

Intellectual Freedom Award

Andi Fansher, Intellectual Freedom Chair,
andifansher@yahoo.com

The Intellectual Freedom Award was presented to Mr. Rhett Jackson this year at the SCASL conference in Florence. The award is sponsored by ProQuest/SIRS and is presented on alternate years by SCASL and SCLA. Intellectual Freedom Awards are presented to individuals or groups who have met or resisted attempts at censorship and have otherwise furthered the cause of intellectual and academic freedom. Mr. Jackson was selected as this year's recipient in recognition of his many efforts over the years in support of intellectual freedom and the right to read. He has been a keen advocate of First Amendment rights both as member and president of the American Booksellers Association and a key figure in the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression (<http://www.abffe.com>). He is also co-chair of the Coalition for Education and has been guest speaker at an earlier SCASL conference.

Mr. Jackson is the retired owner of the Happy Bookseller in Columbia. Mr. Jackson is also co-founder of Education First and continues to be active in his pursuits to protect our rights. SCASL is proud to have presented this award to such a vigorous advocate.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE:

Andi Fansher, Chair
Carol Harris, Kristin Anderson, Debbie Maddox

Greetings From the Pre-Service Committee!

I presented "Pre-Service: get the word out!" as a concurrent session at the SCASL conference in Florence. During the session, Florence area media specialists Debbie Heimbrook and Gaye Brown shared their experiences about going to Francis Marion University to give the pre-service presentation. If you like promoting our profession and would like to educate others in the education community about it, please contact me at jfelker@newberry.k12.sc.us.

Jessica Felker, Pre-Service Chair

PRE-SERVICE COMMITTEE:

Jessica Felker, Chair
Gaye Brown, Ann Parham, Betty Jordan, Debbie Heimbrook, Elisabeth Hall, Peggy Harrison, Jackie Rapp, Cynthia Sneed, Deloris McKnight

Charleston County School of the Arts

Della Marshall, Charleston County School of the Arts, della_marshall@gmail.com, charleston.k12.sc.us

Imagine a room 23 X 100 square feet crammed with 16,608 volumes on 7 ft. high bookcases, 15 computer stations, reading room seating for 30 and a large television set on a towering stand with DVD and VCR players attached. Now throw in a periodical tower, a 6 ft. two-sided newspaper rack, a public access printer, a large-sized Mita copier, and an *uber* large two-seater checkout center fronted by two low, dorm-style comfort chairs. Add to this a dual deck dubbing machine and TV/VCR station, a large school store supply cabinet, two director's chairs and 5 hefty potted plants in the windows. That's just the big stuff in our school library. It's a bit cramped, yes, but I like to think of it as cozy. And, yes, there's a good deal of makeshift at the Charleston County School of the Arts, a 6th–12th grade public arts magnet set in an old elementary school building and assorted out buildings. I wholeheartedly believe it's been worth the effort to make do here on this campus in the 10 years since the school opened in 1995.

I've enjoyed at least 18 of the 19 months since I've been here as the only media specialist for 875 students and a faculty of 80. My emotions on this job have rocketed all the way up to sheer joy. Not only do the great majority of the 875 students who attend the School of the Arts want to be here, most of the 80 arts and academic teachers feel lucky to get to work with kids who have self-selected a positive direction for their schooling.

Perhaps the best window into my experience at SOA opens out onto the numerous collaborations I've enjoyed. The 6th grade reading teacher has invited me to work with her classes in connection with her year-long author study. I enjoyed serving all 138 6th graders as they wrote their Letters About Literature to the Library of Congress. Three have been named semi-finalists in the state competition.

I feel enormous satisfaction with our beautiful, original bookmarks etched with all sorts of unusual plant studies and which remind the patron, "READING PROMOTES GROWTH." The 8th grade visual arts major teacher, Mrs. Marie Nichols allowed me to reproduce all 38 of her students' custom designs

so that we've been able to place one in almost every book we've checked out this school year.

For the first time this semester, I'm getting to know some of our more introverted creative writers by serving them with DISCUS and MLA instruction. It's gratifying to display their self-published senior thesis books on a wall I've fitted out for them in the library and to catalog and check out these students' works. It's gratifying to work with their teacher, Mrs. Rene Miles, whom my daughter credits as preparing her to make all 5's on her AP English exams.

Today I accompanied sixty-four 11th grade honors English students on a field trip to the College of Charleston's beautiful new Addlestone Library. My sister, Ms. Jane Marshall, and I worked together on this trip, and it was very satisfying for me to sit on the school bus with her again after so many years since we graduated from junior high school. One student wrote in her comments about the trip that she was really impressed by the number of volumes and the fabulous technology at the College of Charleston, but she added that it was so big, and that she really preferred a cozy library. That comment made me feel good, because I'm sure our school library is cozy.

Most of all I'm so proud and happy with our Friends of the SOA Library, an organization I started last year. The Friends raised \$1,600 that first year and over \$2,000 this year. We're celebrating our success, which has allowed us to provide requested titles quickly by purchasing them from local bookstores and cataloging them in-house. We're publishing a full-page dedication in our school annual. This year all the names of our many sponsors will appear on this page, which includes, of course, our local business partner, The Everett Presson Group.

Having taught public school since January of 1972, my conclusion after the 19 months I've been at SOA is that all of our students in Charleston County would be well-served by magnet school programs tailored to their own interests and talents. Magnet schools bring parental support and enthusiasm. Parents see their

children happily matched with a school program that serves them personally. Teachers are happier at magnet schools because they are specialists for the types of students they serve. I think the old “It’s elitism” argument against magnet schools is a sure sign of the discomfort some old schoolers feel with catering to real students with real interests and real individual needs.

Before I retire in ten or fifteen years I hope to have the opportunity to work in other kinds of public magnet schools so that I can put my enthusiasm for magnet school programs to other rigorous tests. Meanwhile, I will continue to build collaborations here at the Charleston County School of the Arts. With 80 teachers and 8 different arts areas from which to draw, I don’t expect to get bored or to have to look very far for inspiration.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

If you have enjoyed the articles in the Messenger this year, if you have learned something new about the profession, if you have gotten some tips that you have put into practice, you have the following people to thank. And, if you are prescriptive, please thank Jennifer Burley who sees to it that the commas and semi-colons are correct and pronouns agree with their antecedents. I thank them all for a good year.

Laura Jackson, Editor

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Sandy Bailey | Mary Anne Kohl |
| Andrea Baker | Lynda Lee |
| Peggy Bayne | Betsy Long |
| Jennifer Burley | Dodie Marshall |
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| Peggy Harrison | Lynn Scott |
| Karin Kadar | Sandy Stearns |

Research Goes International!

Galena Gaw, S.C. School for the Deaf and the Blind, ggaw@scsdb.k12.sc.us

Are you looking for a fun, interesting, hands-on research project that would teach your students about different countries and their cultures? Our students learned about different countries when we hosted an International Festival.

Each class had the opportunity to select a country, conduct research, write to travel agencies, prepare displays, obtain artifacts, create hand-outs, and prepare foods from their country. All of the countries represented set up booths at the festival. After the booths were set up, we invited the entire school to tour the International Festival.

All of the “tourists” were given a questionnaire. The tourists visited the booths to answer the questions. Students staffed the booths and answered questions about their country. Everyone who attended the fair enjoyed sampling the food, performing activities at the booths, and learning about the different countries.

Our students have sensory disabilities so we included music, captioned videos, print/Braille handouts, tactile and visual displays, and other accommodations for our population. This was a multi-disciplinary research project that included art, social studies, and English (research, writing and presentation skills).



Two students from the S.C. School for the Deaf and the Blind, Nicholas Thrash and Jamie Greene, wait for “tourists” at the Greece booth.

REGIONAL NEWS

Region 1A.

Coordinator: Carolyn Segers

ANDERSON COUNTY. DISTRICT 1. **Deborah Fowler**, Powdersville Primary, was chosen by Channel 4 as its "Golden Apple Award Winner" for the week of January 10th. She volunteers to teach sewing and crafts at the Pickens County YMCA after-school program. She provides an invaluable mentoring and nurturing role model to her young students. ❖Media specialists, working with the district, are sponsoring a district-wide literacy festival "Spring into Literacy" to be held on April 26 from 6-8 p.m. in Williamston. Authors, storytellers, book characters, and musical groups will be part of the festival. DISTRICT 5. **Laurie Myers** visited Concord Elementary in February prior to receiving her Children's Book Award at the SCASL conference. She spoke to all grades and provided a very exciting day at Concord.

Region 1B.

Coordinator: Sue Fitzgerald

SPARTANBURG COUNTY. DISTRICT 2. Oakland Elementary celebrated Read Across America (Reading, It's Where It's 'Hat') with a door-decorating contest, a visit from author **Michael Finklea**, a Hat Day, and many other activities. ❖Boiling Springs High School hosted **Frank Baker**, media literacy expert, in March to talk with students about media literacy. ❖ On April 15 **Carol Plum-Ucci** will visit and do presentations at Boiling Springs High and Boiling Springs Ninth Grade Campus. DISTRICT 6. **Peggy McQuade**, Dorman Freshman Campus, is having a writing contest about books made into movies. Peggy partnered with a local theater, Spartan 16, to provide posters and movie passes for prizes. GREENVILLE COUNTY. **Ann Shaver**, former Media Services Co-ordinator and then Follett associate, is now back in Greenville County working as Interim Media Services Coordinator since the resignation of Robbie Van Pelt.

Region 2.

Coordinator: Lyn Wolfe

SALUDA. Hollywood Elementary hosts **Laurie Myers** in April. ❖ Saluda Primary is planning a visit from **Julie McLaughlin**, author of *Hungry Mr. Gator*, in April. ❖MCCORMICK COUNTY. The county opened its new elementary and middle schools in January. **Charles (Lyn) Wolfe** is the media specialist for the combined library media center that serves Pre-K through eighth grades. He thanks the many volunteers and his staff for their efforts in making the move so successful. Special thanks go to retired media specialist **Jeanette Austin** for her advice, encouragement, and hard work throughout the year. His library assistant is **Carole Hillis**. ❖**Beverly Hall**, McCormick High, cosponsored two groups of students who competed in the regional National History Day competition in Aiken on March 5th. Both groups rated a superior in their division and will be going on to the State Competition on April 23rd. Ms. Hall led these students in their preparatory research efforts at school, through

interlibrary loan, and on a trip to Columbia to research at the State Archives, Thomas Cooper Library and the Center for African American Music at USC.

Region 3.

Coordinator: Betty Jordan

ROCK HILL. Media specialist **Candi Zazzara**, Belleview Elementary School, welcomed author **Helen Lester** for a visit in March. ❖**Cathy Nelson**, Northside Elementary, Rock Hill, received mini-grant funding (\$500) for a project entitled "Welcome to Northside". The end product will be a video made available to all new students and parents at Northside. Cathy is working with approximately 12 new students in grades K-5 to create the production. The final product is being made in both English and Spanish. Cathy and **Judy Hall**, Northside Elementary Visual Arts teacher, together received a mini grant of \$500 for a new digital camera and printing station. ❖Lancaster High School hosted **Carol Plum-Ucci** in March. She spoke with the journalism classes, the ninth graders, and a special group of students who had read three of her books. A luncheon and autographing session was also held. ❖Andrew Jackson High School and A. R. Rucker Middle School each hosted author, **Sharon Draper**, in March.

Region 4A.

Coordinator: Harriet Pauling

FAIRFIELD COUNTY. **Michal Hope Brandon** is the new media specialist at Fairfield Central High School.

Region 4B.

Coordinator: Elizabeth Gregory

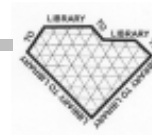
Vital Statistics



Sympathy is extended to Pam Wright and her family on the recent death of her father. Pam is at Wright Elementary in Anderson 2 and also the district's regional contact.



In May, Lee Anne Vitale, Pine Street Elementary in Spartanburg 7, will become Mrs. Chuck Bailie.



Region 5A.

Coordinator: Mary Lou Wallace

Region 5B.

Coordinator: Anita Hutto

Region 6.

Coordinator: David Hardee

Region 7.

Coordinator: Debra Heimbrook

Florence District 1: Media Specialist **Betty Anne Smith**, Royall Elementary School, hosted illustrator **Michael P. White** in February. He conducted sessions with students in grades one through six. ❖Media specialists from the Pee Dee area, Francis Marion University library staff, and Florence County Public Library staff enjoyed working together to host the March SCASL conference.

Region 8.

Coordinator: Sabra Bell

Region 9A.

Coordinator: Linda Buchanan

Author **Ed White** recently visited Whitesides Elementary with tales of a husky who raced in the Iditarod. The students at Whitesides were treated to a video, an actual husky harness and the wonderful book White wrote entitled *Foxy's Tale*. Purchases were made of the book during White's visit. **Deborah Stroman** is LMS at Whitesides. ❖**Peggy Bayne**, Belle Hall Elementary, tried a new method of tallying votes for the Children's Book Award Nominees. Using the E-chalk survey feature, she created one question, to vote for your favorite book, with 20 multiple choices. Students went to the computer lab, logged in and cast their vote the week of February 7-11 during computer lab special area. Votes were automatically tallied on the survey, so there were no paper ballots, except for those classes unable to vote in the lab. This is a time saving tip for LMS's to try out next year or to use with book talks and promotions if E-chalk is available. ❖In celebration of Black Heritage Month, **Minerva King**, St. John's High School, hosted Charleston author **Frances Clayton Gray** who spoke in detail to students and staff about her recent book, *Born to Win: the Authorized Biography of Althea Gibson*. The foreword of the new book was written by Bill Cosby and the afterword by Venus Williams. Ms. Gray told her audience that Althea was a native of Silver, South Carolina and a tennis trailblazer. An autographing session followed the presentation. ❖Michele Bryan, **Mt. Zion Elementary**, announced the RIF (Reading Is Fundamental) grant award of \$1,650 allowing each student to have his/her very own book selection to take home. For many it was the first book ownership experience. Helping to provide the needed matching funds of 25% were the Friends of Mt. Zion.

Region 9B.

Coordinator: Lynne Dubay

BERKELEY COUNTY. Hanahan Middle School was named by the South Carolina International Reading Association (SCIRA) as an honor school for their Exemplary Reading Award.

Region 10.

Coordinator: Celeste Stone

Cynthia McKnight-Zeigler, formerly of Beaufort Elementary School, has joined **Ruth Rogers** as the second media specialist at Battery Creek High School. **Doug Smith**, formerly of Ladies Island Middle School, will be at Beaufort Elementary.

Independent Schools

Coordinator: Galena Gaw

Retired Section

Coordinator: Joan Kruger



Frankie O'Neal works with Brenda Ladson at the registration booth at conference.

SPECIAL THANKS

The coordinators for each region, whose names are listed within the news, are vital to the functioning of the SCASL Regional Network and their work this year has been outstanding. Many thanks to each of them for their support and help this past year.

A special thanks to coordinator Harriet Pauling whose Region 4A had 100% membership this year. District contacts are: Fairfield, Harriet Pauling; Lexington 1, Dupre Young; Lexington 2, Janie Doyle; Lexington 3, Judy Derrick; Lexington 4, Pam Livingston; and Newberry, Jessica Felker.

Frankie O'Neal, Director Regional Network



Recognizing Accomplishments of SCASL Members

We have so many accomplished library media specialists in South Carolina that it's hard to keep track of everyone and what they have done! SCASL is beginning an ongoing listing of members who have been recognized for their outstanding performance and expertise outside our organization.

Calling all School and District Teachers of the Year!

If you have been selected as a Teacher of the Year at the school, district, or state level, please submit the following information:

Name / Email address / Mailing Address / School of Award / District of Award / Year of Award
Please email to: marthataylor@anderson5.net

Calling all National Board Certified Library Media Specialists!

If you have earned National Board Certification, please submit the following information:

Name / Email address / Mailing Address / Certification area / Year certification earned
Please email to: marthataylor@anderson5.net

Please feel free to submit ideas for other accomplishments that deserve recognition in addition to the two above.



A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen Set for April 22-23

Christopher Paul Curtis, author of *The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963*, and *Bud, Not Buddy*, the first book ever to receive both the Newbery Medal and the Coretta Scott King Author Award, will be the featured guest for the 19th annual A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen: A Celebration of Stories. The two-day event will be held on Friday, April 22 and Saturday, April 23 in downtown Columbia.

Curtis, whose most recent book is *Bucking the Sarge*, will deliver the Augusta Baker Lecture at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 22 at The Koger Center for the Arts and will sign books immediately after the event, as well as on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Storytelling for Families at the Wheatley Branch of RCPL, 931 Woodrow St.

For more information, call 929-3474 or visit <http://www.richland.lib.sc.us/baker.htm>.

Lessons Learned from My Students

Greta Flinn, Calhoun Falls High School, mflinn@acsd.k12.sc.us

I have learned a lot since I ventured into the world of education. I always knew that knowledge gained from taking classes, participating in workshops, attending conferences, and working with other education professionals would impact my career. What I did not realize was how much I would learn from my students.

Lessons learned from students are sometimes humorous. Did you know that Mexico and the U.S. share a president? Or that New Mexico is a Spanish speaking country?

Lessons learned from students are sometimes helpful, such as letting you know about a new search engine or giving you driving directions.

Lessons learned from students are sometimes frustrating. Every URL ends in “.com”. An atlas and an almanac are the same thing. Lessons learned from students are sometimes disgusting. It is okay to eat in the restroom. It is not important to throw away half eaten food or used tissues.

Lessons learned from students are sometimes heartbreaking. I had always heard from my professors that you would shed tears as a teacher. I blew it off until my husband came home to find me sobbing because I suspected that one of my third graders was being sexually abused. There have been many tears since then.

I have listed below what I feel are some of the most important lessons I have learned:

- **You really do catch more flies with honey...**There have been several days when I have been stressed to the max and in a horrible mood that have been completely turned around by a student's smile and greeting. Students have replaced well-deserved wrath with a gentle warning because of friendly attitudes. Students have proven to me time and again that asking works a whole lot better than telling.
- **A little attention goes a long way...**Sometimes the best thing you can do for someone is take a few minutes out of your day and listen. You never know how much just talking with a student who approaches you can make a difference. Paying attention to your students and speaking to them by name or asking how they are doing helps you build rapport with the student body at large as well as the individual.
- **Admit that you don't know everything...**It is much better to admit you don't know something than to make something up. Students respect the courage it takes to be honest. Students love to be asked for their expertise. If one of our computer gurus is in the media center I don't hesitate to ask for help if I have forgotten what menu some option is under.
- **Admit when you make a mistake...**If you have told them incorrect information, admit it. If you misunderstood something, own up to it. I'll admit sometimes it is hard to do this one, but it really does pay off.

I am sure before it is all said and done I will learn many more lessons from my students. It doesn't seem to matter what grade level I work with—from kindergartners to adults, each group has something to teach me. I only hope that they will carry some lessons learned from me into the future as well.

South Carolina Association of School Librarians is proud to announce . . .



AASL Regional Institute: Leading Through Collaboration

“Leading Through Collaboration” is the first in a series of regional institutes available for nationwide use throughout the profession by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American Library Association.

The AASL Regional Institute: Leading through Collaboration ties into two of the ideas — collaboration and leadership — that underlie the vision of library media programs presented in *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning*. Each is integral to every aspect of the library media program and every component of the school library media specialist’s role.

- ◆ Gain knowledge of the leadership skills necessary to achieve change
- ◆ Work with other leaders to study the challenges facing the profession
- ◆ Tie AASL and ALA resources to specific leadership strategies
- ◆ Examine leadership opportunities available in AASL and ALA
- ◆ Develop new contacts
- ◆ Prioritize, plan and reflect on professional and personal goals

AASL charged \$169.00 for this institute during ALA Midwinter this past January in Boston. SCASL is underwriting the cost difference to provide this national level professional development to our members at a more affordable cost.

SCASL Leading Through Collaboration AASL Regional Institute

Thursday, June 16, 2005 from 9:30 - 5:30 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

Registration fee (includes snacks and lunch) \$50.00 Limited to 75 participants

Name: _____

Job Title: _____ School: _____

Preferred Email address: _____

Personal Telephone: _____

Home address: _____

Lunch Sandwich Preference: Ham Turkey Roast Beef Vegetarian

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2005
Please mail form and check made payable to SCASL to:
SCASL -- P.O. Box 2442 -- Columbia SC 29202

Reflections from a First Year Media Specialist: “The End of the Beginning”

Terri Catalano, Irmo Middle School, Lexington 5, tcatalano@lex5.k12.sc.us,

At the book award luncheon at the SCASL conference in Florence last month, I had the pleasure of sitting with a woman who was in her 41st year as a media specialist. No, that is not a misprint, I did mean 41st year. There I was in my first year and she was in her 41st. As I said to a friend at the table, my first year cohort Karen Tisdale, “Considering this is my ‘second career’, I do not think I will reach that milestone; I would be as old as Methuselah in my 41st year.”

Attending the conference for the first time through the eyes of a working media specialist, and no longer as a graduate student, was an exciting experience. First of all, I didn’t feel guilty splurging on 3 different shirts (Read, Media Specialist, Click Clack Read) since I was finally earning money, not just making periodic donations to USC. But more importantly, as I reviewed the conference sessions, I would choose and evaluate which to go to with the specific needs of my school and my students in mind. In fact, I was applying three of the information literacy standards (accessing information efficiently and effectively; evaluating information critically and competently and using information accurately and creatively) to determine which sessions to attend and which would be the most useful in providing creative ideas that I could bring back to my media center. Although the conference has always been a stimulating and instructive experience (this is my third conference, although the first was greatly abbreviated for me as my oldest daughter had pneumonia), this conference had more “real life” applicability and relevance and was no longer a theoretical exercise. And that realization just supports what we know about teaching students information literacy—do it in the context of the curriculum and an actual assignment. We don’t make it just an exercise in and of itself. We teach students how to access, evaluate and use information that they, in fact, need for a particular project, class or task, and as I sat in various sessions, I evaluated how I could apply the information back at work. For example, as I sat in James Bryan’s session on the new social studies standards and I was introduced to some historical fiction titles about the Holocaust that I was not familiar with, I thought about a language arts teacher who had just asked me about some books to offer her students in addition to *The Diary of Anne Frank*. As I sat in David Loertscher’s “Ban Those Bird Units”, I thought about ways to collaborate with my teachers on their “country research” projects to make them more information- and technology-rich and promote higher-level thinking. Even as I toured the vendors, I looked for books and resources and even fun items that were germane to my population, so I picked up “*Booktalking Across the Curriculum, The Middle Years*” and shirts in my school’s colors. And during that one session at

the conference that I attended and quickly determined would not be useful to me, I was bored and distracted, not unlike our students when what we teach doesn’t seem pertinent to them. Rather, it is viewed as a waste of time or worse, busy work. That is not the impression we want to leave students with. It emphasized why it is vital that we collaborate with their classroom teacher on a content area lesson.

As I write this article I am counting down the days until Spring Break, not because I don’t enjoy what I do, in fact the best part of this first year has been the realization that I love doing what I do, even though as with most jobs there are good days, bad days and great days. And, yes, even a few awful days. The fundamentals of the job, however, being the information specialist in the school and promoting information, reading and technology literacy, are truly fulfilling and feel like the job I was always meant to do. I am counting down the days until Spring Break because I am physically and mentally tired and want, no, need, the opportunity to recharge and reflect. Being a media specialist is a demanding job that requires a multitude of skills, sometimes seemingly in conflict with each other. Let’s face it, how many bookworms are also technology gurus, terrific teachers and comfortable assuming leadership positions in all of these areas throughout the school? And let’s not forget incredibly organized, detail-oriented, creative, and artistic great salespeople. Not only do we have to explain information literacy to our classroom teachers, we often have to “close the deal” and convince them it is worth the time and effort to collaborate with us and, moreover, reap the benefits of our expertise and knowledge.

This year has, thankfully, affirmed my decision to become a media specialist. Most of what I expected when I started last August has come to fruition. No two days are alike and tedium is not a problem. Some things have been surprising—not always pleasant—remember student ID’s from an earlier column? Pleasant surprises have included the reception I have gotten from most teachers who appreciate and respond positively when approached about collaboration, or when I make a suggestion that rather than “pulling poetry books” for them, I have a great idea about students creating poetry books of their own. (Thanks, SCASL listserv, for great ideas.)

I didn’t expect the first year to be perfect, and it wasn’t. It has been a roller coaster with more ups than downs and a few curves thrown in to make sure I never get too complacent. I have learned so much and realize that one of the best things about this job is that the learning will never end and as an information junkie – aren’t we all – that is the best news of all.

We'll Miss You, Mary

Mary Bull served as the DISCUS Project Director from its inception. As such, she oversaw the coordination and management of DISCUS, worked with DISCUS vendors, and provided consultation service and technical support. Her efforts were endless and she was always more than willing to assist library media specialists with whatever problems they were encountering in their use of DISCUS. She provided training in its use and maintained a regular contact with all through the SCASL listserv.

Prior to working for the State Library, Mary was Public Services Librarian at USC-Coastal Carolina College (now Coastal Carolina University) and reference librarian at Indiana University at Kokomo. She holds an MLS and BA in English and Religious Studies from Indiana University.



She welcomed all comments and questions as she represented the State Library and DISCUS at annual SCASL conferences. Her responses to queries posted in general on listserv were always helpful and prompt. When in doubt, media specialists knew they could call on Mary.

Martha Taylor, President of SCASL puts it so well. "Mary did a superb job of making K12 schools full participants in the DISCUS project. Recognizing the specific information needs of our students and teachers, Mary incorporated input from school library media specialists at every phase of the planning and implementation. K12 library media specialists were always represented on the various DISCUS project committees.

While she worked continuously with district-level library media and technology leaders to establish and maintain the technical aspects for the databases and disseminate information and updates, Mary also took time to help individual library media specialists every step of the way. She was a constant presence on the SCASL-LS discussion list, offering curriculum integration suggestions and patiently answering questions. She provided a wide variety of training specifically designed for school librarians at every level of experience and expertise. This ensured that every South Carolina library media specialist could become a proficient DISCUS user, and also empowered interested library media specialists to become trainers and leaders within their schools and districts.

On a personal note - it was always a pleasure to work with Mary on DISCUS. One of the brightest and most energetic women I know, Mary has a wonderful and wicked sense of humor and a true sense of fair play."

Aunt Bee's Springtime advice...Spread Out and Excel!



If you are not already familiar with setting up an Excel spreadsheet, it is a valuable software tool to learn through a class sometime before the new school year begins. Using Excel to create and save a budget template assures you will have a document you can reuse each year. By inserting your new budget totals at the beginning of the new school year, you will be able to quickly and simply create a budget you can reference when needed. Excel has the capability to virtually do any calculation or organization of data that meets your needs. Using a spreadsheet will not only allow you to keep up with your budget funding, but it can also help you with quick access to budget proposals to present to your administration.

Many districts offer an introductory course in Excel. Other options are to teach yourself, either by using the tutorial that accompanies the Excel program, or by using the book, [Excel for Dummies](#).

Mark Your Calendars Now!
SCASL Conference 2006

When? March 1-3, 2006

Where? Embassy Suites Charleston Convention Center

5055 International Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29418

How Much? Embassy Suites Room Rates:

\$144.00 Plus 6% sales and 6% occupancy tax
(Single, Double, Triple and Quad)

See pages 30 and 31 of this issue for concurrent sessions and exploratorium applications. Submit applications to present by the September 1, 2005 deadline and your name will be entered into a drawing for fabulous prizes, including a free Pre-Conference session.

Other hotel information and details will be forthcoming.

**For additional information, contact Carolyn Pearson Jenkins,
cpjenkins30@aol.com, Conference Chairperson**

Retiree Roundup

The retiree section sponsored a round table session at the recent SCASL conference in Florence. Included in the round table discussion were retirees who are still actively involved with SCASL. Mitzi Burden gave background information on the archives. **(Did you know they have been moved from Rock Hill to Columbia?)** Joyce Moore reported on the newest Book Award category, "Picture Books". The first nominee list will be voted on during the 2005-06 school year. **(Did you know that retirees can volunteer to serve on any of the selection committees for Book Award titles?)** Laura Jackson shared news about the *Media Center Messenger*. She has begun indexing issues, going back to 1998. **(Did you know that you can access both this year and last year's MCM online from SCASL home page?)**

We would like to hear from retirees who may have some interesting or unique experiences in retirement. Have you started a new career, found a special way to be involved in library programs, or done something that you would like to share with us? We would like to collect these "tidbits" and publish a "Retirees Roundup" in a future issue of MCM. You can send information directly to Laura Jackson (MCM Editor) at jmoggles@direcway.com, or snail mail to Joan Kruger, 2450 Mineral Springs Rd., Lexington, SC 29072.

Are you getting ready to retire at the end of this school year? Let us hear from you if you are. Also, check with Kathy Sutusky, Executive Secretary. You may be eligible for free membership! A great deal and wonderful way to stay involved in SCASL.

Joan Kruger, Retired Section Chair

**South Carolina Association of School Librarians
March 1-3, 2006**

Embassy Suites Charleston Convention Center North Charleston, South Carolina 29418

Application To Present

(Deadline for submission: Received by September 1, 2005)

Please type or print all information.

Main Presenter

Vendor: Yes _____ No _____

Name _____

Institution _____

Work address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Home address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Co -Presenter

Vendor: Yes _____ No _____

Name _____

Institution _____

Work address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Home address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Session Title _____

Session Description: Your description will appear in the program and should be written to “market” your session. (No more than 50 words. Use back of page if necessary.)

Please include a brief statement for the presider to use to introduce you before the session begins: _____

Equipment Needs: Computer hardware, peripherals, and Internet connectivity will NOT be provided.

Choose program format you prefer: 1-hour _____ 2.5-hour workshop _____ 5-hour workshop _____

For technology sessions, what level of expertise is required? Novice _____ Experienced _____

Has this program been presented before? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, where? _____

When? _____

Would you be willing to make your presentation twice? Yes _____ No _____

Is there a day when you are NOT available to present? Wed. _____ Thurs. _____ Fri. _____

Is the appeal for: Elementary _____ Middle _____ High _____ ? (Check all that apply.)

Return to: Carolyn Jenkins / 16 Crooked Pond Drive / Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

Phone 843-681-7422 / Email: cpjenkins30@hotmail.com

All applications must be received by September 1, 2005. Electronic submissions are permissible.

All presenters must be listed on the application. Vendor presenters must be conference exhibitors.

Presenters are responsible for their own conference expenses, including registration.

Notification of acceptance will be mailed to the main presenter.

SCASL 2006 Conference

Proposal to Present One Hour Exploratorium Session

Embassy Suites Charleston Convention Center

North Charleston, South Carolina 29418

March 1-3, 2006

Exploratorium Session will be a one-hour tabletop exhibit session. Selected presenters will have the opportunity to share great program ideas via portable display and handouts (optional).

Title _____

Description (Please limit to 50 words or less)

Main Presenter:

Name _____

School Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Additional Presenter (if any)

Name _____

School Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Return to:

Carolyn Pearson Jenkins, 16 Crooked Pond Drive, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

843-681-7422, email: cpjenkins30@hotmail.com

All proposals must be received by September 1, 2005.

Notification of acceptance will be mailed to main presenter.



Change Service Requested

Get Ready... Get Set... EdTech is a GO!



The media specialist plays a pivotal role when it comes to technology in the school. This was most evident to me at this year's SCASL Annual Conference in Florence, South Carolina. The conference sessions and tours were jam packed with ways technology can enhance learning and improve our effectiveness as media specialists.

Another opportunity for us to attend, present, volunteer, and network with other media specialists and technology leaders is just around the corner. SCASL is one of the many partner members of the South Carolina Association for Educational Technology (SCAET). The SCAET's EdTech Fall 2005 Conference: *High Performance Education through Technology* will be held September 28-30 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

SCAET is looking for presenters for the fall 2005 conference. The Call for Papers proposals deadline is May 31, 2005. SCAET also recognizes the many excellent programs in our state that implement innovative uses of technology in education. Does your school have a program that is enhancing learning through technology? You may want to apply for the *Technology Innovative Program (TIP) Award*. The application deadline for this award is May 31, 2005.

For more information on the fall 2005 EdTech conference, the Call for Papers submission, or the TIP Award process and listing of past winners, go to the SCAET's EdTech website at www.scaet.org/edtech and look for postings on the SCASL listserv.

Malinda Edmonston, Information Technology Chair, medmonst@greenville.k12.sc.us_SC

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:

Malinda Edmonston, Chair, Pam Cribbs, Laura Richardson, Mary Smith, Gloria Taliaferro, Donna Teuber, Sue Waddell, Sally Wimberly

And, don't forget to thank:

Martha Taylor, President
Lawren Hammond, Vice-President/President-Elect
Kitt Lisenby, Secretary
Stephen Reed, Treasurer
Betsy Adams, Advisor
Galena Gaw, Non-Public Schools
Ida Thompson, Supervisor's Section
Jane Connor, SCLA
Martha Alewine, SDE
Donna Shannon, USC
Young Writers' Conference representatives: Elizabeth Gregory & Patty Tucker

To all members of
SCASL who have
helped make this
such a successful
year, have a won-
derful summer!